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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/718,901	11/21/2003	Roger S. Kerr	86155NAB	1629

7590

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EXAMINER

WATSON, KRISTIE D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2878

DATE MAILED: 09/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/718,901	Applicant(s) KERR ET AL.	
	Examiner Kristie Watson	Art Unit 2878	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 1121 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                        | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-14 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

With respect to claims 1-14, Wachtel et al. U.S. Patent 5,939, 728 does not teach that a scanning device for radiographic media comprising a moveable scan bar mounted on a first and second translation rod adjacent the drum; at least a first scan module and a second scan module, mounted on the moveable scan bar; and a translation drive connected to the moveable scan bar for moving the moveable scan bar perpendicular to the longitudinal axis in combination with the other limitations disclosed in the claims.

Wachtel does however disclose that in a photo-stimulable phosphor image system, as discussed in the claim limitations, the speed of a latent image pattern can be increased from phosphor plate screen response time and converted from analog to digital.

Based upon the prior art, there is no evidence that a person skilled in the art would have the motivation to include a moveable scan bar mounted on a first and second translation rod adjacent the drum.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

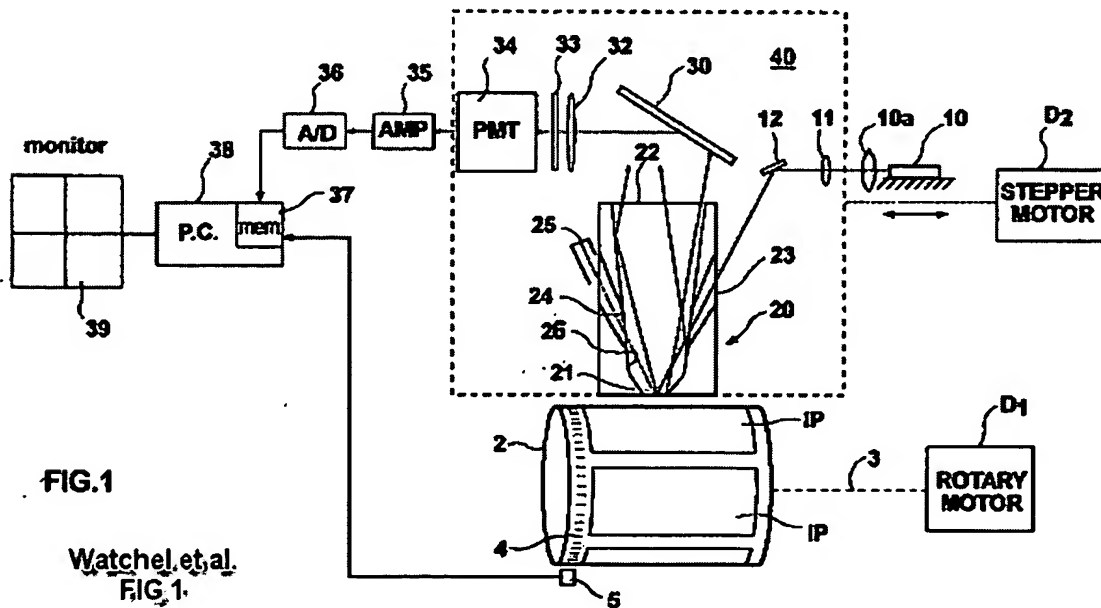
***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 15 - 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Wachtel et al. U. S. Patent 5,939,728.

5. See Figure 1-4 where Wachtel et al. teaches claim limitations.



6. Pertaining to Claim 15, Wachtel et al. teaches that a method for scanning radiographic media and writing scanned images on diagnostic film comprising: (a) placing the radiographic media on a vacuum drum ( 2 ) ; (b) bringing the radiographic media (1P) up to a predefined rotational speed; (c) scanning the radiographic media with all scanning modules simultaneously;(d) converting the scanned images from analog to digital images(36); (e) compiling with a control process unit (38) the digital images from the different scanning modules forming a continuous and complete image; and (f) transmitting the compiled and complete digital image to an output device(39).

7. Pertaining to claim 16, Wachtel et al. teaches (Column 2, Lines 46-55) that the method of claim 15, wherein each scan module scans a 1-inch swath of the media.

8. Pertaining to claim 17, Wachtel et al.(Column 5, Lines 5-15) teaches that the method of claim 15, wherein the output device is a film writer or an imaging display.

9. Pertaining to claim 18, Wachtel et al. (Column 5, Lines 55 -and Column 6, Lines 1- 5) teaches that the method of claim 15, wherein the complete image is stored in the control process unit.

10. Pertaining to claim 19, Wachtel et al. (Column 5, Lines 33-40, 55-65) teaches that the method of claim 15, further comprising the step of using the output device and writing the complete image on diagnostic media.

***Conclusion***

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Wachtel et al., U.S. Patent 5,939,728, teaches a method and apparatus for reading a latent image stored in a photo-stimulated luminescence imaging plate by scanning the imaging plate with a focused beam of light of a first wavelength to simulate the stored image to emit light of a second wavelength; collecting the light emitted by the imaging plate; and directing the collected light to a light detector which converts the collected light to electrical signals wherein the output of said photomultiplier tube is amplified, digitized, and stored in a memory of a computer.


12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kristie Watson whose telephone number is (571) 272-5052. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Porta can be reached on (571) 272- 2444. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2878

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KDW



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